REMARKS

This Application is a divisional application of U.S. application No. 09/985,534, filed November 5, 2001. Claims 1 to 16, 18 and 19 are presented for examination, and respectively correspond to Claims 1 to 16, 18 and 20 as cancelled on August 8, 2003 from the parent application.

The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities and to improve its idiomatic English form.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are not being provided pursuant to the PTO's waiver of this requirement, as indicated at 1273 O.G. 1. (August 5, 2003) have been provided in Parent Application No. 09/985,534.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,489,618
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,075,256
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 5,965,872
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,243,441
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 6,075,256
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,818,898

(7) U.S. Patent Publication Application No. 2002-0066861 A1

(8) U.S. Patent Publication Application No. 2001-0038075 A1

Reference (1) was cited in Parent Application No. 09/985,534 as

Application No. 09/627,446; Reference (7) was cited as Application No. 09/984,174; and

Reference (8) was cited as Application No. 09/816,360.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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